



# INDIANA EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Family Engagement Workgroup

Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: August 15, 2014

### MEMBERS

Kevin Bain

Melanie Brizzi

Charlie Geier

Beckie Minglin

Tammy Veselsky

Alonzo Weems

### ADVISORY MEMBERS

John Burnett

Connie Sherman

#### Attendees:

Keith Reissaus, Jen Drake, Deanna Wilkison, Anita Allison, Debbie Beeler, Jennifer Mohr, Deborah Chubb, Michael Conn-Powers, Vicky Cuenca, Beth Barrett, Jim Cohen, Amanda Lopez, Kyle Wehmann

#### Key Topics Discussed:

1. Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework: 33 States are implementing this (Ventura County example in Wiggio "References" folder)
2. It aligns with the 7 Head Start outcomes—looks holistically at the family
3. In our proposed framework, we need to emphasize our family's *strengths*.
4. We could propose a broad KR framework, then use an Appendix for details.
5. Translating a framework rooted in social welfare to early education may be an issue/ We may lose the essence of a framework if it is "translated"
6. Big challenge for providers to provide family engagement (FE) on top of everything else they must do. FE is the hardest part of Head Start. (HS has staff dedicated to *specifically* to outreach.)
7. We may need to have explicit strategies or dedication of resources for family engagement.
8. PreK Development Grant: FE piece will come in as outcomes/ Look at the systems we have and how they can be enhanced with FE components.
9. Getting clarity around our framework will help with recommendations on a FE component for the PreK Pilot (required by state statute)
10. Legislative Study Questions 5 & 6 will be addressed by the FE Workgroup

#### Key Questions Raised:

1. How will we apply the outcomes once a framework language is written?  
How do you go from framework to implementation and action?
2. How can a framework be executed with fidelity?
3. What are the critical components of a framework? *Each group member answered this question and responses are documented in separate file\**
4. What about bringing in others (Mentors?) to help recognize what true family engagement is and operationalize it within early child care?
5. Could something be added to PTQ around family engagement?
6. Did the 17 county readiness statements reflect the counties' understanding of family engagement?

#### Action Steps:

1. Keith and Chris to complete the High Level Project Plan template with workgroup deliverables from now until end of year.
2. Keith will crosswalk Head Start and Strengthening Families frameworks
3. Keith and Chris will create a FE framework "shell" draft from workgroup member responses\* to be workshopped at next meeting.



---

### **Next Meeting**

**Date:** September 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, 12pm-2pm

**Location:** Goodwill/NFP, 5901 Lakeside Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46278

Conference Call #: 877-219-9314, code 787-694-3606

#### **MEMBERS**

Kevin Bain

Melanie Brizzi

Charlie Geier

Beckie Minglin

Tammy Veselsky

Alonzo Weems

#### **ADVISORY MEMBERS**

John Burnett

Connie Sherman